

Amy D. MacKay  
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## **TEN LIVES ARE BETTER THAN NINE**

We've all heard that old wives tale that cats have nine lives. If Amy MacKay has any say in the matter, that old wives tale will not only become a reality but even embellished further to 10 or 11 lives!

Dr. Amy Mackay, you see, is a veterinarian who specializes in feline internal medicine, including the treatment of cancers. She established her Nine Lives Cat Clinic in June, 2003 after several years of working in another veterinarian's clinic and dreaming of owning and operating one of her own. She saw a need in the market for a feline internal medicine specialist, but she did not know where to turn for assistance. That's where a realtor, a banker, and the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) came to the rescue.

The first step was finding a suitable location for a practice. A local realtor helped her find the perfect building in Richmond Heights that would serve as a great location for her practice, which led her to the next step: finding financing to allow her to acquire and renovate the building, purchase the necessary equipment and fixtures, and provide working capital. A referral to National City Bank set the financing in motion. The bank worked with SBA to structure suitable financing to meet Dr. MacKay's needs. She received three SBA guaranteed loans through National City Bank to finance all of her start-up needs.

"With SBA support, lending organizations like National City are able to provide more funds to entrepreneurs like myself," stated Dr. MacKay. "I am very thankful that the SBA exists to encourage and support small business ventures, and I applaud National City's dedicated relationship with the SBA. Together, they have allowed me to realize my dream."

Dr. MacKay's client base continues to grow, and she and her staff look forward to continued growth in the future. "My staff and I work together toward our goal of superior service", states Dr. MacKay. "Our motto is Quality Medicine; Compassionate Care. We are cat crazy, and so are our customers".

With the technical side of starting a business out of the way, Dr. MacKay can now concentrate on her expertise - adding more lives to her feline clients!